

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/730,233 Confirmation No.: 2522  
Applicant: Ghorbel  
Filed: December 8, 2003  
Group Art Unit No. 3617  
Examiner: McCarry, Robert  
FOR: Autonomous Robotic Crawler For In-Pipe Inspection

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Our File Number: 1789-08603  
Date: May 25, 2005

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which Applicants are aware.

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references submitted therewith is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation, that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action. It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Consideration of the following related application and additional information is requested:

U.S. patent application Serial No. 10/272,846, filed December 17, 2002 entitled Autonomous Robotic Crawler for In-Pipe Inspection.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (d), copies of certain publications, or other information, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a), listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 are not provided herewith, as they have been previously submitted to, or cited by, the Office in the above-

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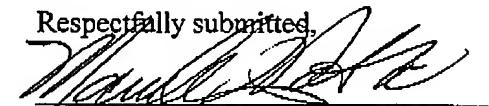
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PAGE 13/16 \* RCVD AT 5/25/2005 6:10:37 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/10 \* DNIS:8729306 \* CSID:7132388008 \* DURATION (mm:ss):04:56

mentioned earlier U.S. Patent Application(s). The Information Disclosure Statement filed in the earlier application(s) complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)-(c).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)  
Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/730,233
Sheet	1	of	2	Filing Date	December 8, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Fathi H. Ghorbel
				Group Art Unit	3617
				Examiner Name	R. J. McCarry Jr.
				Attorney Docket Number	1789-08603

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
AA*	US-3,890,905		06-24-1975	Clavin	
AB*	US-4,055,315		10-25-1977	Gvelesiani et al.	
AC*	US-5,571,977		11-05-1996	Kipp	
AD*	US-4,363,137		01-13-1987	Lemelson	
AE*	US-4,170,902		10-16-1979	Pallan	
AF*	US-4,862,808		09-05-1989	Hedgecock et al.	
AG*	US-5,392,715		02-28-1995	Petrine	
AH*	US-5,172,639		12-22-1992	Wiesman et al.	
AJ*	US-5,551,349		09-03-1996	Bodzin	
AJ*	US-5,565,633		10-15-1996	Wernicke	
AK*	US-5,749,397		05-12-1998	Molaug	
AL*	US-5,773,984		06-30-1998	Suyama et al.	
AM*	US-6,019,048		02-01-2000	Seeberger et al.	
AN*	US-6,035,786		03-14-2000	McKay et al.	
AO*	US-6,087,830		07-11-2000	Brandy et al.	
AP*	US-6,107,795		08-22-2000	Smart	
AQ*	US-6,123,027		09-26-2000	Suyama et al.	
AR*	US-6,162,171		12-19-2000	Ng et al.	
AS*	US-6,243,657		06-05-2001	Tuck et al.	
AT*	US-6,427,602		08-06-2002	Hovis et al.	
AU*	US-6,450,104		09-17-2002	Grant et al.	
AV*	US-5,878,783		03-09-1999	Smart	
AW	US-6,031,371		02-29-2000	Smart	
AX*	US-4,603,720		08-05-1986	Jacoby	
AY*	US-4,000,655		01-04-1977	Jones	
AZ*	US-4,677,863		07-07-1987	Lehmann	
BA*	US-4,537,136		08-27-1985	Douglas	

\* CITED IN PARENT CASE

\*EXAMINER: Initial reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov/cr/MPEP-901.04](http://www.uspto.gov/cr/MPEP-901.04). 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORM TO THIS ADDRESS. Send To Commissioner For Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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				Examiner Name	R.J. McCarty Jr.
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	1789-08603

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>1</sup> Number + Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
BB*	WO00/63606		10-26-2000			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>
HC*		Supplementary European Search Report for EPO Serial No. EP028017967 dated September 15, 2004 (3 p.)			
ED*		Kumar et al.; <i>Robotic Corrosion Inspection Crawler</i> ; Material Performance, Vo. 30, No. 4, pp. 29-32, 1991			
BE*		PCT International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/US02/33169 dated March 6, 2003 (4 p.)			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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